Island Trees Public Library
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2014

IN ATTENDANCE:
John Mikulin, President
Ann Harris, Vice President
Jerry Schmotzer, Trustee
Salvatore Rinaldi, Trustee
Bill Fitzgerald, Trustee
Ann Boiallis, Board Secretary
Chris Ostuni, I.T.P.L. Attorney
Michele Vaccarelli, Director

ABSENT:
None

CALL TO ORDER:
John Mikulin called the meeting to order at 7:01m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:
Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
These minutes represent a summary transcription of the topics and conversations that occurred at the ITPL Board of Trustees meeting.

John Mikulin asked for a Motion. Salvatore Rinaldi made a Motion to accept the January 28th Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes as written. Ann Harris seconded the Motion. All in favor: Unanimous.

APPROVAL OF WARRANT:
John Mikulin asked for a Motion. Ann Harris made a Motion to accept the January 2014 Warrant #549 for check numbers 10210 – 10295 for a total amount of $29,847.20. Jerry Schmotzer seconded the Motion. All in favor. Unanimous.

Bill Fitzgerald arrived at 7:05pm.
CORRESPONDENCE:  In Director’s Report

DIRECTOR’S REPORT:  
(See attached Director’s Report)

Facility:  Discussion centered on the pros and cons of the proposals received for the HVAC contract. The Board asked the Michele, Director, to look in the Yellow Pages or look into getting local contractors to come in and give us prices for the job. Public asked why is that the School District does not maintain the HVAC. Our Board answered by stating that this is our responsibility, in accordance with our lease agreement.

Newsletter:  Question asked - why is it that the ITPL’s Newsletter comes to our houses so late, especially after a registration date for specific programs?  It was stated that our newsletter is taken to the post office on time, we are classified as not-for-profit, therefore the post office can hold it for a few days it is their discretion. Discussion centered on how we could get the newsletter out earlier. It was decided that the Seaford, Bethpage, and Levittown newsletters would be taken to their respective post offices.

Alarm:  Michele recommended our alarm system be upgraded to a wireless system. Our present alarm system is 17 years old and the box is 20 years old. With the upgrading with Activated Systems, all the zones will be separated. It was also stated that we have been a customer of Activated Systems for a long time, since the Library moved into this location.

John Mikulin asked for a Motion.  Salvatore Rinaldi made a Motion to accept the Activated Systems contract for our HVAC, at a cost of $2,790, which includes a new key pad.  Bill Fitzgerald seconded the Motion.  All in favor: Unanimous.

Technology:
Crayon Kiosk - will hold 4 iPads, which has been funded by a grant from Senator Kemp Hannon.  Once we have everything set up with the Crayon Kiosk, we will invite Senator Hannon. Michele stated that she would look for the best price for the purchase of the 4 iPads.  It was suggested that we should also purchase contracts for the iPads.

Digital Signage Kit - this digital signage, which has been funded by a grant from Senator Dennis Dunne will be placed across from the circulation desk. Once we have everything set up, we will invite Senator Dunne.

John Mikulin asked for a Motion.  Ann Harris made a Motion to purchase the Digital Signage Kit, at a cost of $1,190.  Bill Fitzgerald seconded the Motion.  All in favor: Unanimous.

2014/2015 Budget:  Budget was agreed upon.
Approved: 3/28/2014

Board Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2014

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
None

NEW BUSINESS:
None

Public Participation:

A Patron stated that there are discussions and rumors going around stating that the school board has changed their mind in selling the property. John Mikulin answered by stating he has spoken with Dr. Murphy, they have a few options. 1) they can sell 1 of the buildings, 2) sell both of the buildings – and look for an administrative building with the library in it, 3) keep it the same. John M. suggested, and what the board has adopted, we asked that the school district transfer the whole building over to the library. The library board would like to extend slowly, through grants not all at once, making the library a bigger facility to accommodate more of our patrons. In doing this we will be increasing our property values in the area. We are hoping the school district will support our plan. John M. stated even though the school district and library are a separate entity, we are connected through the State, and are connected with them because we are a school district library. John M. stated we still do not know how much money the school district is planning to sell the property for – the school district won’t tell us.

A resident stated that she learned quite a bit from our Special Library Board Meeting on Saturday, February 1st.

A Patron stated he had a few concerns. One of his underlying concerns is the fact that the school board admitted to not doing any impact studies at all. The impact studies must be done first. The second concern is the fact that the school board appeared to be backing off, which is only an appearance. Patron stated we should intensify our stand.

Chris B. asked John M. if Dr. Murphy or anyone on the school board contacted him for a follow-up since the Special Library Board Meeting? John M. stated that he has spoken with Dr. Murphy and discussed everything that is going on. John M. stated through an intermediary he heard that Ken Rochan (President of the school board) wanted to speak with him. John M. replied that Ken R. should call him, as of this meeting Ken R. has not called. John M. stated that Dr. Murphy said the plan now is slowing down, they are starting committees. John M. mentioned to Dr. Murphy about the Library getting the Karopczyc building. Dr. Murphy is not willing to give us the whole property. They will be shutting down the whole Gallow building; the heat will be shut off next year.
Public Participation - Continued:

Chris B. stated whatever the library property goes for, if they estimate $1MM per acre that the money has to be spent in 10 years and then it dries up. Property taxes are going to go up each year, once the monies dry up, no money will be generated from anything here until well after it is built. The numbers the school board generated on the handout at the meeting on the 12th, it appears those numbers are for 247 units at a property value of $400M. It looks like it is a single built home, not a condominium, which is not taxed at the same rate.

Sonia Meyers (former ITPL President) stated she is so happy with the results so far. She stated we should be proud of ourselves and we should make the school board rethink their plan. We cannot let up on the pressure. Sonia M. stated that she and Ann Harris spent 6 hours on their cell phones calling old contacts, informing people of what is going on with the library. Sonia stated that perhaps we should look into having signed petitions started stating that it is never going to be okay to displace or relocate the library. John M. stated that as a Library Board they are going to request the Karopczyc building before a committee is started. John M. stated that he hopes everyone will come out, support us, and push for this. In addition, when the school board forms their committee the library board is going to formally request a presence, we are going to have our attorney draw up a letter and request a position on their committee.

John M. stated that with the petition process, the library board is unable to formally do this. The Public is permitted to draw up a petition and have people sign it, we can work together to get signatures. Once signatures are gathered then it can be presented directly to the school board.

ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

John Mikulin asked for a Motion. Jerry Schmotzer made a Motion at 8:20pm to adjourn the meeting to go into Executive Session for the purpose to discuss personnel issues. Salvatore Rinaldi seconded the Motion. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

Bill Fitzgerald left the Board Meeting at this time for family reasons.
I.T.P.L. BOARD OF TRUSTEES  RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION:
The Board returned from Executive Session at 9:30pm. No voting took place.

John Mikulin asked for a Motion to adjourn the February 28, 2014 Board Meeting. Ann Harris made a Motion to adjourn the Board Meeting. Salvatore Rinaldi seconded the Motion. All in favor. Unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 9:31pm.

The next Board Meeting will be held on Friday, March 28, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann L. Boiallis
Secretary to the Board of Trustees
/alb